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ALLEN THORNDIKE RICE.

IN MEMORIAM.

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ON Saturday, May 11, Mr. Rice superintended and directed the preparation of this number of THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW. He also formulated on that day explicit instructions as to the policy of the management during his contemplated absence as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Russia. "Be careful to keep it out of the old and worn academic rut," he said; "let it be what I have made it—a magazine of the times." Though tired, he was full of eagerness and enthusiasm, fertile in suggestions, and happily confident in the future. On the following Wednesday he was to sail for his post at St. Petersburg. But on Monday he was troubled with a sore throat, and, much against his will, was compelled to take to his bed. Up to the last moment preparations for his departure continued, and neither physician nor nurse foresaw a fatal termination to his illness. Though he was unable to sail on the appointed date, it was expected that he would be able to take the following steamer. Early on the morning of the 16th, however, he died suddenly, the immediate cause of his death being an unsuspected affection of the lungs, complicated by a malignant form of quinsy, into which his sore throat had developed. Never was a brilliant and useful career ended more abruptly or more tragically.

Allen Thorndike Rice was born in Boston on June 18, 1853, and spent most of his youth in Europe, where he received an unusually thorough education. He was graduated from Oxford with the degrees of B. A. and M. A., and by the charm of his personality and the earnestness of his intellectual aspirations he secured, while he was still scarcely more than a boy, the friendship of such men as Mr. Gladstone, Victor Hugo, and Mr. Froude.

At the age of twenty-two he returned to the United States, and soon afterwards purchased *THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW*, which at that time was moribund and profitable to neither its publishers, its editors, nor its contributors. Instead of imitating the English quarterlies, with their voluminous essays, he desired to make it the representative of modern thought and action in every direction, and to have for his contributors not the academical critic and the learned hack, but the leading participants in the march of progress. How far he succeeded every reader of the *REVIEW* knows.

Possessed of an ample fortune, young, refined, accomplished, and attractive in manner, he was surrounded by every inducement to surrender himself to a life of ease ; but no penniless young man, with a fortune to make, ever displayed more industry and tireless zeal. He was not only the editor of the *REVIEW* ; he was the publisher also, and personally superintended every detail of its management.

Mr. Rice was thoroughly scholarly in his equipment and sympathies, and the master of a virile literary style. His temperament was infectiously buoyant, and his manner full of high-bred and winsome courtesy. He was deeply interested in science, and counted among his friends Edison, Charcot, and Pasteur. In 1879 he organized and directed the Charnay expedition, which was sent to investigate the remains of the ancient civilizations of Central America and Mexico, the results of which were given in the *REVIEW*. He amused himself in his scant leisure with researches in a small laboratory of his own. With all this, he took an active interest in politics, and it is scarcely more than a month since he was appointed Minister to Russia. But he who was so alert and so eager less than a week ago is dead, and the career that was so brilliant in achievement and promise has ended midway, at the very moment that its hero was reaching out for yet more varied activity and still higher things.

WILLIAM H. RIDEING.